

**HAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM  
MINUTES  
November 1, 2004 7:00 PM**

**PRESENT:** William H. Sullivan, Chairman, Virginia Bridle-Russell,  
James Workman, Cliff Pratt, Rick Griffin  
James Barrington, Town Manager  
Karen Anderson, Administrative Assistant

**I. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

The Board led the audience in the flag salute.

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Residents were reminded to vote on Tuesday and to allow plenty of time as a large turn-out is expected.

Condolences

Condolences were expressed from the Board to Attorney Mark Gearreald on the passing of his father today.

**III. APPOINTMENTS**

1. Mrs. Grail O'Connor, Re: 6 N Street Parking

Mrs. O'Connor, Mr. Paul Houghton and Mrs. Judy McCarthy were present and told the Board that they own the property at 6 N Street and had purchased it as partners thirty years ago. Mr. Houghton said that they appreciate the time the Board has provided to them and requested that the Board assist them in resolving their parking concerns. He told the Board that with the proposed infrastructure project an 8' sidewalk was proposed for one side of the road; but due to the number of physical encroachments the sidewalk is being narrowed and the street skewed to account for the encroachments. Mr. Houghton said that they would like the sidewalk on the north side eliminated. Mrs. McCarthy said that it is essential for them to have 8 parking spaces, one for each of their 8 units. Mrs. McCarthy said that the units are only summer rentals and losing four or five parking spaces will make it impossible for the units to be rented. She said that there are three other properties on N Street that have physical encroachments and they are allowed to keep them, but they are not being allowed to keep the parking spaces that they have had. Mrs. McCarthy said that Mr. Barrington and the engineers have been very helpful, but the problem remains with the parking.

Mrs. O'Connor said that most of the Board members have seen the property and can understand that there are two dwellings on the property with four parking spaces for each and if the plans go through as proposed the front house loses four spaces in the front and that will put them out of business.

Mr. Griffin said that he has been out to see the property and has heard people about this concern. He asked about the encroachments that have been allowed to remain. Mr. Barrington said that originally the plan was for an 8' sidewalk on one side and 5' on the other side, now they are planning for a 5' sidewalk on both sides and looking to see where re-alignments of the right-of-way would avoid the moving of structures. On N street, the encroachments are on the south side at the east end; and on the north side at the west end so by adjusting the road slightly the conflicts with the structures are eliminated. This problem is with parking spaces that have been used that are half on the right of way and half on private property. In other situations, wider curb cuts have been allowed to provide some relief to parking problems, but anyway the road is shifted in this situation there will be a portion of the cars extending into the right-of-way or encroaching on the sidewalk if there was one on that side.

Mr. Griffin said that the problem at this property has been brought up many times. Mrs. Bridle said that she shares their frustration that accommodations have been made for buildings, but not for their parking spaces. Mr. Barrington said that essentially buildings are harder to move than parking spaces, the

alternative is to remove all encroachments. Mr. Barrington said that there are some structures that encroach into rights-of ways that may have to be removed.

Mr. Pratt asked when the owners became aware that their parking extended onto town property. Mrs. McCarthy said that they became aware of it at the first public hearing this summer. Mr. Sullivan noted that in May of 2003, when their condominium conversion request came to the Planning Board it was noted that all reference to delineated parking spaces were to be removed from the plan because it was known that the spaces encroached on town land. Mrs. O'Connor said that they were aware that there was something noted about the parking, but they didn't think the town would take four of their parking spaces. She said that they have run a good establishment and have not had any problems. Mr. Pratt said that if a property goes before the Planning Board and they find something in violation they try to correct it. Mr. Workman noted that if the street is moved and adjusted in any manner, these spaces would still require a curb cut across the entire frontage of the property. Mr. Barrington said that was correct and there is precedent for that large a curb cut, but in those cases the parking is entirely on private property.

Mr. Pratt said that he would like to consider this for a week and put it on the agenda next week. Mr. Griffin said that he wants to make sure that everyone is treated the same and that it looks like their attorney didn't fill them in completely. Mrs. O'Connor said that she said that they knew that the parking spaces went onto town property but they had been using it for years and didn't think that they would lose their spaces. Mr. Barrington said that there was a property to the east of this property that had the same problem and will now have parallel parking and have lost some spaces. A curb cut is being provided for off-street parking on the private property. The owners said that they will call for an appointment to further this discussion with the Board.

### **III. OLD BUSINESS**

#### Town Manager's Report

##### Infrastructure Project

Mr. Barrington reported that by Friday of this week there will be changeable message signs to alert motorists and residents of the construction areas at the beach. Construction will begin on Island Path and traffic will be restricted to local traffic only. Mr. Barrington asked the Board if they want to have a ground breaking ceremony. If so, he suggested Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Barrington said that the Board will also need to have a public hearing to consider an ordinance to authorize the police chief to make adjustments to stop signs and traffic flow during the construction period.

##### Town Report

Mr. Barrington told the Board that he received a phone call from NHMA on Friday afternoon notifying us that our Town Report has been awarded 1<sup>st</sup> Place in our size category for the second year in a row. Congratulations to Karen Anderson for her diligent work on this project year after year. Mr. Sullivan stated that the Town Manager's office will be closed on Thursday afternoon so that both Mr. Barrington and Mrs. Anderson can attend the award presentation.

##### Antique Map Donation

Mr. Barrington announced with appreciation that Mrs. Diane Knowles has donated to the Town an antique map of Hampton. It was one of the original copies prepared for the 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Town in 1938. She has framed it, together with a separate display of the history of the document. We will be putting it up for display in the Town Office.

##### Channel 22

Mr. Barrington told the Board that the Cable Committee will be providing information to back up their request for authorization to purchase additional equipment.

Mr. Barrington said that he has also been advised that the Chamber of Commerce has asked the Channel 22 Committee if Channel 22 audio equipment could be loaned to the Chamber of Commerce for use during the Christmas parade. Mr. Jett asked the Town Manager to clear that with the Board.

#### High School Parking Request

High School Principal Ruth Leveille called the Town Manager this week to discuss the developing parking lot situation at WHS. Due to the construction going on, considerable parking space will be lost around the high school. She was asking if we would be interested in exploring the opportunity for the students to park at Tuck Field. We also discussed that students are charged a fee for a sticker to park on campus and that they (and their parents) are required to sign an agreement as to the use of the parking facilities. If the Board is interested, we can explore the viability of providing some spaces to be designated for students who have paid a fee to park there during the day. If the Board is not interested, the Town Manager will convey that message. There are some logistics to work out if the Board is interested in doing this so that visitors to Kid's Kingdom or the tennis courts can have parking available. Apparently a number of students have been parking at the theater and they are now being asked to leave that property so parking is becoming scarce for the students.

#### Dredging

Mr. Barrington received a call from the company that will soon be doing the dredging work in the Hampton Harbor requesting permission to lay pipe on the Town beach south of the half tide jetty. Mr. Barrington said that it was his recollection that this was allowed when the dredging was last done several years ago. The pipe would be below the water at full tide and exposed at low tide. This is a state project that the town is not involved in the funding of and will help dredge the harbor for navigation.

#### Bond Counsel Services

The town has received proposals for Bond Counsel services from four firms. Finance Director Dawna Duhamel and Attorney Gearreald have been reviewing the proposals. Mr. Barrington said that he expects to make the selection early next week.

#### Police Facility

The contractor continues to make excellent progress on the new police station. The anticipated date of substantial completion remains November 17. Mr. Barrington said that Chief Wrenn has suggested that we may wish to plan a ribbon cutting or dedication ceremony for the week of December 6 – perhaps Saturday morning, December 11? He would prefer to postpone an official open house until the spring after the office is fully organized in the new building.

#### Warrant Articles

Mr. Barrington told the Board that he is beginning to organize the initial Warrant articles that have been previously discussed or are routine annual articles. He expects to have a first round draft of those ready for you to review at the November 8 meeting.

#### 12 Shirley Terrace

The Lacey family who owned the property at 12 Shirley Terrace has now defaulted on the extension that the Board granted. Attorney Gearreald has recommended that the next highest bidder may be invited to see if they are still interested at their price. If they are not we may want to put it out for another auction or sealed bids. Mr. Workman asked if the second bidder is not interested and the property goes to bid a second time if those expenses are added to the town's expense. Mr. Barrington said that they were.

#### Aquarion Water Company

The plans for the sewer service for the proposed new Aquarion office in North Hampton have been delivered to Public Works. Mr. Hangen has reviewed them and stated that it is possible for them to hook into the line and that their plans were technically acceptable.

Mr. Griffin said that he had received some calls regarding providing sewer for Aquarion and he was asked if the building could be put on the Aquarion property in Hampton. Mr. Barrington said that they would have to get a variance from the Hampton Zoning Board of Adjustment to build a commercial building in an RA zone and Hampton site plan approval through the Planning Board. That is an alternative that could be considered, but he was not sure if they would be successful in getting a variance from Hampton. Mr. Griffin said that they pay taxes to Hampton and the sewer line would increase the value of that property as a result. Mr. Barrington said that Mr. Estey would know what the increase would be. Mr. Pratt said that he does not have a problem with that building being hooked in, as long as they are charged for the sewer use because it will protect the town's drinking water.

The consensus of the Board was that the Town Manager should draft a warrant article requesting authorization for Aquarion Water Company to tie into the Hampton sewer on Mill Road. The Board asked the Town Manager to ask Aquarion if it would be possible for their new building to be located in Hampton. Mr. Pratt said that the fee to be charged should be outlined in the warrant article. Mr. Barrington said that rather than a specific fee, the formula to arrive at a fee should be approved in order to allowed for changes as needed.

#### Dredging

The consensus of the Board was that the contractor could put the pipes off the jetty, onto town property for the dredging.

#### High School Parking

Mrs. Bridle said she was opposed to any arrangements with the high school to provide parking at Tuck Field or Eaton Park. She noted that it was a nightmare when the students had been parking there. Mr. Barrington said that there would be a lot of details to work out to prevent the type of problems that occurred in the past, such as reserving portions of each lot for the tennis and Kid's Kingdom visitors. Mr. Workman asked if the Hampton police would be called every time there was a car parked in a wrong space. He was opposed to the concept. Mrs. Bridle said that the taxpayers provide busses for the students. The consensus of the Board was not to allow the parking for Winnacunnet students.

#### High Street Parking Lot

Mr. Pratt told the Town Manager that the High Street parking lot has some vehicles that have been there for some time and may be abandoned.

#### Parking Problem

Mr. Griffin reported that on the ocean edge, near Boars Head there are semi-tractor trailers parking for extended periods of time, overnight and with their refrigeration units operating. Mr. Barrington said that he has observed that as well, and while it may be a State parking area he will have the police department look into it.

#### Police Facility Open House

Mr. Pratt said that there is no need for a ribbon cutting as well as an open house for the police facility, one event should be ample. Mrs. Bridle suggested February would be the appropriate time frame for the open house because people have waited a long time for this building. Mr. Barrington agreed that February would be appropriate and he will relay that to Chief Wrenn.

#### Infrastructure Ground Breaking

Mr. Pratt said that the infrastructure project is important and one of the largest projects the town has had and he would like to have a ground-breaking. Mr. Sullivan suggested a location on Ashworth Avenue at C Street on Saturday, November 6th at 10:00 AM for a ground-breaking. Mr. Barrington will coordinate the details.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**Request for Post Office signage at Stickney Terrace/Lafayette Road

Mr. Barrington explained that the Post Office would like a sign at the end of Stickney Terrace to show that the post office is down Stickney Terrace. He understands that it would be similar to a street sign on an existing pole.

**Mr. Pratt MOTIONED** that the Town Manager authorize the installation of a sign at the end of Stickney Terrace for the post office.

**Mr. Workman SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

Cable Committee

Mr. Sullivan said that the Cable Committee has requested an authorization to expend up to \$1,500 for replacement equipment and jackets. They are also requesting authorization to use town equipment for the broadcast of the Christmas Parade.

**Mr. Pratt MOTIONED** that the Cable Committee be authorized to use town equipment to assist the Chamber of Commerce with the Christmas Parade.

**Mr. Griffin SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Mr. Workman MOTIONED** that the Cable Committee be authorized to expend up to \$1,500 for coats and equipment.

**Mrs. Bridle SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

Warrant Articles

Mr. Sullivan said that there are a couple of warrant articles he would like the Board to consider. One would be the adoption a business license ordinance and the other would be to authorize the Board of Selectmen to appoint a committee to study the acquisition of Aquarion Water.

**V. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Authorization for SSI Interim Assist Program
2. Taxi Permit
3. 2004 2<sup>nd</sup> Half Tax Warrant in the amount of \$20,900,349.30

**Mr. Workman MOTIONED** that the consent agenda be approved.

**Mr. Pratt SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Gerald Dignam spoke about Aquarion's request to have their building in North Hampton hooked up to Hampton sewer. He had concerns that this will create a precedent. Mr. Dignam urged the Board not to endorse this.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Mrs. Bridle MOTIONED** that the meeting be adjourned. ( 8:30 PM)

**Mr. Workman SECONDED**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

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Chairman

